The Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS), Health and Recovery Services Administration (HRSA) Mental Health Division (MHD) has formed the System Transformation Initiative Forum to make recommendations for improvements in the delivery of public mental health services for adults with severe and persistent mental illness and children with serious emotional disorders. This forum will provide input to DSHS on implementation of specific legislative and budget initiatives from the 2006 legislative session.

The Mental Health Division would like to invite you to our third and final Forum. The earlier Fall and Winter Forums explored your thoughts and ideas on the STI initiatives and helped to shape the work of the project to date. At this Forum MHD and the STI Consultants will present a variety of "options for reform" and will be seeking your reaction and input. Please join us once again to continue this important public policy conversation.

When: May 15, 2007 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Where: Doubletree Hotel

18740 International Blvd, Seattle, WA 98188

Cost: Free. Lunch and morning snacks provided

Registration: See attached registration form to register by mail or fax.

For more information, call Diane Pearson at (253) 756-2741

or 866-303-3037.

The project will be addressing the following initiatives over the next year:

- 1 Statewide implementation of Program of Assertive Community Treatment teams
- 2 Preparation of a plan for expanding housing options for individuals with mental illness
- 3 A study of the Medicaid benefits package and Medicaid managed care rates
- 4 Development of a utilization review system to assure people receive appropriate levels and durations of state hospital and community psychiatric inpatient care
- 5 A comprehensive review of the state's involuntary commitment statute and system

Because seating is limited to 150 guests, please register by Tuesday, May 1, 2007. A confirmation will be sent to you indicating that you are registered. Reimbursement for hotel and travel expenses will be available for a limited number of consumers of mental health services and family members. Please register by April 24, 2007 if wishing to arrange an overnight stay at the Doubletree Hotel at the Government rate.